WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of providing telecommunications services comprising the steps of:

sending by a call server of a first trigger linked to a first call event to a service manager in response to occurrence of the first call event;

sending by the call server of a second trigger linked to a second call event to the service manager in response to occurrence of the second call event;

in response to receipt of the first and the second triggers, the service manager performing a service interaction management analysis and determining which applications should be executed; and

in response to a determination that at least one application should be executed, invoking by the service manager of the at least one application via an application-programming interface.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of invoking further comprises providing to the at least one application information regarding an object with which the at least one application must interact.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of interacting by the at least one application directly with the call server via the application-programming interface.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the application-programming interface comprises Open Service Access (OSA).

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the step of interacting directly with the call server is responsive to a determination that no service interaction management issues are present.

6. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of interacting by the at least one application with the service manager via the application-programming interface.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the application-programming interface comprises Open Service Access (OSA).

8. The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of interacting by the service manager via the application-programming interface with the call server, the service manager serving as a proxy.

9. The method of claim 1 further comprising caching by the service manager of call-related information included in the triggers.

10. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of proxying by the service manager between the at least one application and the call server.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein the triggers comprise intelligent-networking (IN) triggers.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein at least one of the triggers comprises an Open Service Access (OSA) requirement.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the OSA requirement includes a reference to a call object on the call server.

14. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of obtaining by the call server of a plurality of trigger criteria from a user profile database.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the triggers permit dynamic association of the call server to a particular user.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein the first call event and the second call event are the same event.

17. An application-programming-interface-based telecommunications system comprising:

a call server obtaining criteria corresponding to at least one trigger from a user profile database and, in response to occurrence of the criteria, sending the at least one trigger;

a service manager receiving the at least one trigger and, in response to receipt of the at least one trigger, performing a service interaction management analysis and determining in what manner applications should be executed;

an application-programming interface adapted to permit the call server, the service manager, and the applications to communicate; and

at least one application being invoked in response to a communication from the service manager via the application-programming-interface.

18. The system of claim 17 wherein the application-programming interface comprises Open Service Access (OSA).

19. The system of claim 17 wherein the service manager serves as a proxy between the first call server and the at least one application.

20. The system of claim 17 wherein the service manager directs the at least one application to interact directly with the call server.

21. The method of claim 17 wherein the service manager caches call-related information included in the at least one trigger.

22. The system of claim 17 wherein the at least one trigger comprises intelligent-networking (IN) triggers.

23. The system of claim 22 wherein the at least one trigger comprises an Open Service Access (OSA) requirement.

24. The system of claim 22 wherein the OSA requirement includes a reference to a object on the call server.

25. A telecommunications system comprising:

a service node adapted to communicate according to pre-determined criteria via an application-programming interface (API) with at least one application or via a networking protocol; and

at least one network entity adapted to send to the service node a networking protocol trigger that includes an API requirement, the API requirement requesting an API response to the trigger, wherein the service node is adapted to, depending on the pre-determined criteria, respond to the network entity according to the networking protocol or to communicate with the at least one application via the API.

26. The system of claim 25 wherein the service node is adapted to respond to the network entity via the API.

27. The system of claim 25 wherein the at least one application communicates directly with the network entity via the API in response to the communication by the service node to the at least one application.

28. The system of claim 25 wherein the networking protocol comprises the intelligent-networking (IN) protocol.

29. The system of claim 28 wherein the API requirement comprises an Open Service Access (OSA) requirement.

30. The system of claim 29 wherein the OSA requirement includes information regarding an object with which the at least one application must interact.

31. The system of claim 28 wherein the service node comprises a service control point (SCP).

32. A method of converging telecommunication systems comprising:

sending by at least one network entity to a service node a networking protocol trigger that includes an application-programming interface (API) requirement, the API requirement requesting an API response to the trigger; and

depending on pre-determined criteria, responding by the service node to the network entity according to the networking protocol or communicating by the service node with at least one application or with the network entity via the application-programming interface (API).

33. The method of claim 32 further comprising the step of communicating by the at least one application directly with the network entity via the API in response to the step of communicating by the service node with the at least one application.

34. The method of claim 32 wherein the networking protocol comprises the intelligent-networking (IN) protocol.

35. The method of claim 34 wherein the API requirement comprises an Open Service Access (OSA) requirement.

36. The method of claim 35 wherein the OSA requirement includes information regarding an object with which the at least one application must interact.

37. The method of claim 34 wherein the service node comprises a service control point (SCP).